

## City Manager's



### Weekly Update Friday, September 28, 2007

#### Notes of Interest:

**Accidental manhole:** The Public Works Department is discovering the main sewer pipeline's condition is worse than expected.

Workers installing a manhole for the Flag City sewer line connection to the city pipeline found the concrete pipeline crown completely missing in some areas. At one point, a construction worker standing on what he thought was dirt fell through and into the pipe. Fortunately, the workers had previously constructed a bypass pipe so no sewage was flowing through.

Property owners who have the pipeline on their land will be receiving letters from Public Works advising them that the land above the pipe may be unstable.

The city is preparing documents for a \$32 million wastewater financing, which includes nearly \$8 million to repair the failing line. Unfortunately, the city's rate structure has never accounted for replacing that transmission line, which is now more than 40 years old.

**Turner/Lower Sacramento roads:** Initial roadwork is underway to widen the intersection of Turner Road and Lower Sacramento Road across from the General Mills plant. Turner Road will be closed from Rutledge Drive to Parkview Avenue, and Lower Sacramento Road from Turner to Eilers Lane, from Oct. 9 through Oct. 12. Local residents and businesses will be allowed access to their properties. Contractor George Reed will be placing an advertisement in the Lodi News-Sentinel a week before the closure to notify residents.

**West Nile update:** The Mosquito Abatement District reported Friday that the number of West Nile virus cases reported for 2007 doubled this week, from four to eight. Three of the victims are from southern San Joaquin County (male, 25; female, 51, male 55) and one from northern San Joaquin County (male, 16).

**Kettleman Lane underpass:** A letter-writer to the Lodi News-Sentinel this week complained about the condition of the vegetation under the Union Pacific Railroad bridge over Kettleman Lane. Caltrans owns the property and has offered safety gear, orientation and recognition panels free of charge if the letter-writer wants to lead a group of volunteers on a clean-up project. The Public Works staff has offered to provide trash bags and free disposal. The city's agreement with Caltrans calls for every-other-week street sweeping.

**Parking garage complaint:** The city has received complaints from a downtown merchant about the reduction in security for the parking garage, which goes into effect this month. The reduction from 24/7 seven days a week to 7 p.m.-7 a.m. weekdays (still 24-hour weekend security) will save about \$45,000 a year. The city does not provide regular security at any other parking facility. The entire \$66,000 annual cost of security at Lodi Station is funded by the transit budget.

**East Lodi Avenue:** Tuesday's workshop at the LOEL Center on improving the look of East Lodi Avenue drew about 30 people. The workshop sought comments from community members on what features should be incorporated in future Public Works projects between Sacramento Street and Cherokee Lane.